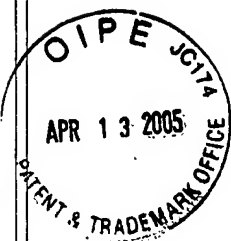


Attorney Docket
33035 M 086



P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CONFIRMATION NO. 5371

Applicant : Hiromi NAKANISHI, et al.
Serial No. : 10/087,948 Art Unit : 2633
Filed : March 5, 2002 Examiner : Quan Zhen WANG
For : Optical Communication Device

RESPONSE TO SPECIES ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

A response to the Office Action of March 28, 2005, which required an election of species, is due by April 28, 2005.

The Examiner alleges that the claims of this application are directed to three patentably distinct species of the claimed invention, as follows:

Species I, corresponding to Figures 4-11;

Species II, corresponding to Figures 12-15; and

Species III, corresponding to Figure 16.

Applicants elect Species I for examination in this application, and advise that claims 2-14, 31-43, 60-65 and 67-69 read upon elected Species I. Applicants agree with the Examiner's assertion that claim 1 is generic.

Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications directed to the claims of non-elected species, if made necessary.

It is believed that this application now is in condition for examination on the merits,
and prompt action in that regard earnestly is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP



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Date : April 13, 2005